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**Abstract**

The invention relates to a heat exchanger, particularly an exhaust heat exchanger (1) for an internal combustion engine. The heat exchanger (1) has a tubular housing (2) a housing section of which is surrounded on the outside by a duct housing (9) with an annular duct (10) being formed. The duct housing (9) has a coolant connection (connecting branch 12) and, in the housing section which is covered by the duct housing (9), passage openings (13 to 16) which are distributed over the circumference and via which a uniform distribution of the coolant in the interior of the housing (2) is obtained. It is advantageous, in the case of a heat exchanger (1) with an expansion element (18), to use the annular duct (10) and the passage openings (13 to 16) at the same time in order to form the expansion element (18).

(Fig. 1)